



NEWS RELEASE

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District: District 4, Oakland
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Santa Rosa U.S. 101 Widening Traffic Update

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Santa Rosa-Caltrans reminds motorists of the recent changes on the U.S. 101 widening project as people set out in their cars over the holiday weekend. Over the last few weeks, traffic switched at Steele Lane, the Downtown or Third Street offramp opened, Third Street opened, and Fifth and Ninth Streets closed.

While the northbound Third Street offramp is open, it is still flanked by concrete barriers and is narrower than the finished ramp will be. Drivers are cautioned to exit carefully and drive courteously. Currently there is one combination left-hand/through lane, one through lane, and one right-hand turn lane.

The Third Street undercrossing between the eastern and western sides of downtown is open. Crews painted new lane lines Wednesday morning. The Third Street undercrossing is now in its pre-construction configuration. In the westbound direction, there are two left-hand turn lanes in a turn pocket onto Morgan, and two through lanes. Eastbound there is one left-hand turn lane and two through lanes.

Fifth and Ninth Streets are closed. Ninth Street remains open to pedestrians and bicyclists. The Prince Memorial Greenway is scheduled to reopen Wednesday at the end of the day, just in time for a walk or bike ride along the Santa Rosa Creek over the holiday weekend.

Steele Lane's traffic switch begins just south of Bicentennial, puts traffic onto Steele Lane, and shifts traffic back just south of the Steele Lane onramp. New lines are painted on the roadway delineating the shift. Drivers are urged to watch for the new lanes. If drivers make an error and miss an exit, it is safer to keep driving to the next exit than to stop on the freeway.

With additional congestion downtown and near other parts of U.S. 101 over the long holiday weekend, motorists are advised to consider alternate routes such as State Route 12, to Dutton for the western half of town, and South E Street for the eastern half of town.

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